C2569 2-120-23 #125

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Newvs from Fleetstreet.

OR,

The Last Speech and Confession

OF

The Two Persons Hanged there for

MURTHER

On *Friday* the 22 of *October*, 1675.

With an exact Account of all the Circumstances of their Murthering the Knight for which they Dyed: The Manner of their being Apprehended, and their Deportment in *Newgate*, from the time of their Condemnation, to their Execution.

With Allowance.

Printed for *William Powel*, 1675.

News from Plecktrece:

OR

The Last Speech and Confession

OF

The Two Persons Hanged there

MURTHER

On Friday the 22 of October, 1675.

With an exact Account of all the Circumstances of their Tryal, the Evidence given against them, the Reasons for which they Died: The Manner of their Behaviour at the Place of Execution, and their Deportment in Newgate from the time of their Condemnation, to their Execution.

An account of the crime and confession of the two Persons hanged in *Fleet-Street*.

THere is nothing more false or extravagant than common fame; and therefore to prevent the further spreading of untrue Reports concerning this unhappy accident, it is now thought fit to make publique a more Impartial and perfect account thereof then has yet been exposed to general view.

The fact it self was of that Nature as scarce admits of any Extenuation, much less Apology, Murther being a Crime most heinous and abominable, not to be expiated, where wilfully Committed by any thing but the life of the offender: All Laws both Divine and humane centring in this most Just resule, *That he that sheds mans blood, by man shall his blood be shed.*

The Gentleman upon whom this assassination was committed was a person of good worth, a handsome noble Estate, young in years, and likely to have proved very useful and serviceable to his Countrey and Generation, his Family being so well known that I do not think it fit to stain his name by inserting it in a pamphlet; Let it suffice to say, That as he was a Knight by title and quality so he was of that clear courage and generosity, that he deserved a braver fate than to be thus clean destinely killed by surprize; The occasion of which was this.

This Knight and a friend of his being accidentally in company at a Tavern in Fleet-street, these two persons whose lives have now paid for their insolency, intruded into their room, and one of them created a quarrel with the Knights Friend, pretending forty shillings due to him from his Brother, as won of him at play, which he very rudely demanded of this Stranger, who refusing to gratifie so unreasonable a request, high and very rough words arose from the over-swelling of their mutual passions, from Words, as too often is usual in such cases, the heat of their Spirit brought them to blows, wherein yet little harm was done on either side, they being quickly parted by the by the people of the house and others that there interposed.

Hereupon these two persons how soever the way, but as it sadly appears, not being [illegible]

resolved to way-lay them, more particularly to be revenged on this Knight, whose appearing resolutely in his friends behalf had defeated them of their expectations; and accordingly waited in the street till the others came forth, they followed them towards the back Gate of the Temple in *White-Fryars*, and then both of them with as little generosity, as piety or regard to the Laws of God or Man, fell on the Knight on a sudain sheathing both their Swords in his body, and purshing their thrusts even after he was down: he not having opportunity by reason of the unexpected surprize so much as to draw his sword.

Leaving him dead there upon the place, these Criminals considering what they had done, betook themselves to flight, and as is said immediately crost over the Water, but thinking themselves not secure about *London*, concluded to take their journey for refuge, yet wanting Horses and other conveniences for that purpose, and not daring to be seen abroad to provide any they were forced to make use of a friend, who 'tis probable knew nothing of the particulars of their danger, to get such necessaries for them; It happened that Gentleman that very day had a Tryal to be in *Guild-hall*, and being plaintiff came in the morning to his Attorney, desiring of him to put off the Tryal because he had two friends in a little danger that he must that day help to get out of the Town. This honest Attorney being called upon by the

other

other side to proceed to Tryal, acquainted them with what his Clyent said, and the particular occasion which kept him absent, not imagining it to be any matter of secrecy. But by chance (shall I say or rather providence,) one that stood by and had been well acquainted with the murthered Gentleman overhearing him, inquired who his Clyent was, suspecting these two persons to be the same they afterwards proved; and it appearing so upon the examination of the Clyent, and that they were gone towards *Barnet*, pursuit was made after them, who crossed the Countrey, and Rid by-roads, but yet not so secretly but still the hue and cry had notice of their motion, till at last [illegible] lodged them in a village, where getting of a Constable and comming with store of company to apprehend them, these seemingly unconcerned Gentlemen themselves look'd out at a Window, and ask'd the people *what the matter was*; and being told it was to apprehend persons suspected for the murther of a Knight at *London* they stood upon their guard, but being apprehended, and committed, and thence by due proceſs of Law brought to *London*, and arraigned at the *Old Bayly*, at the Sessions, the 19 of *October* 1675. where they pleaded that the Fact was done *se defendendo*, and afterwards that it was onely Chance medley, or [illegible] they, being edged in heat of Blood upon a sudden fray or Rencounter; but the several circumstances before mentioned being distinctly

ly and fully proved against them, and that they made the second assault a good considerable time after the first quarrel, the Jury brought them in guilty of murther, and accordingly they received Sentence of death; as in such cases is usual, onely because it might be a more a Warning, and make the greater impressions on the spirits of the wild Hectorian Gentlemen, wherewith this age and City too much abounds; it was thought fit by authority, that they should be hanged in *Fleet-street* as near as conveniently might be to the place where they did the fact.

There were several addresses (as 'tis said) made for obtaining a pardon or reprieve for them, but the hainousness of the crime, the quality of the person kill'd, and many other circumstances prevented that indulgence.

After Sentence they behaved themselves in *Newgate* with much moderation and seeming (I hope hearty and sincere) repentance; The Ordinary and other godly Ministers often attending them with Christian admonitions and exhortations for the eternal good of their souls.

The Day of Execution for the common prisoners was on *Wednesday* the 20. of *October*, at which time five condemned last Sessions for Housebreaking Robbery and the like crimes suffered death at Tyburn; but these two persons had the date of their lives extended until Friday the 22 of this instant *October*, and then suffered in *Fleet-Street*; where

where vast multitudes of people were assembled to be spectators of the dismal spectacle.

Some time before their death, they both acknowledged great sorrow for their [illegible] and particularly for the crime for which they were to dye; they confest from the time of the fray at the Tavern they had a murtherous intention against the Knight, but protested they had no malice against him before. At the place of Execution they desired very passionately all young persons to take Warning by their unhappy end of such rash actions, and in particular reckoned up neglect of the Sabbath (and Gaming as the main Original Sin that brought them to this ruine.

And so after certain Prayers and private discourse with some friends, they were executed according to Law.

After Sentence they behaved themselves in Prison with much moderation and learning (I hope) unfeigned repentance. The Ordinary and other godly Ministers often attending them with Christian admonitions and exhortations for the real good of their souls.

The Day of Execution [illegible] was on Wednesday the 30. of October, at which time five condemned [illegible] for Houshold-breaking Robbery and the like crimes suffered death at Tyburn; but their two petitions had the date of their lives extended until Friday the 2d of this instant October, and then suffered in Tyburn; where

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